

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph starting on line 8 of page 9 with the following amended paragraph:

FIG. 11 is a side view showing a state of evacuating the wafer from a cutting position by descending a ~~holding member~~ wafer holder which holds the wafer;

Please replace paragraph [0037] with the following amended paragraph:

[0037] On the other hand, the roller 30 is constituted by a plurality of a rotatable roller A 316, a rotatable roller B 317 and a rotatable roller C 318 into which a shaft is inserted and of which diameters are approximately equal. The roller B 317 located at a center has a function for engaging the protruded portion 314 formed at one side of the hook portion B 312 and a slide face which is connected with the protruded portion 314. (See FIG. 13 and FIG. 14.) A width of the roller B 317 is set almost equal to that of the hook portion B 312. The roller A 316 and the roller C 318 adjacent to the roller ~~C 313~~ B 317 are disposed so as to slide corresponding to the hook portion A 311 and the hook portion C 313 of the pawl member 39, respectively. In this embodiment, a stainless steel is used as a material for the roller A 316 and the roller C 318 in the same manner as the hook portion A 311 and the hook portion C 313.

Please replace paragraph [0066] with the following amended paragraph:

[0066] When an operator, from this state, further pushes down the covering body 38 in a direction of the arrow F, the protruded portion 314 disposed at one side end portion of the hook portion B 312 advances toward a direction of a predetermined

locking position in accordance with rotation of the roller B 317 with which the protruded portion 314 has an engagement relationship (the hook portion B 312 advances forward) to be pushed downward around another side which is fixed by screws as a fulcrum. In short, the ~~roller B 317~~ hook portion B 312 having the flexure property yields to pressure caused by engagement with the resin made roller B 317 and it becomes a bending state. (A state shown in FIG. 13(B) and FIG. 14(B)) In this state, a top part of the protruded portion 314 still has an engagement (contact) relationship with the roller B 317, yet, since the top part takes approximately the same face as upper faces of the adjacent hook portion A 311 and the adjacent hook portion C 313, the upper faces of the hook portion A 311 and the hook portion C 313 also slide to contact respectively circumferential surfaces of metal made rollers of the roller A 316 and the roller C 318 which are adjacent to the roller B 317 on both sides.

Please replace paragraph [0086] with the following amended paragraph:

[0086] When an operator lifts the plate piece 38 provided at the tip side of the covering body 34 to remove the tube(s) that the connecting operation is finished from a main body of the apparatus, the hook portion ~~[[314]]~~ B 312 having the flexure property bends to release engagement with the roller B 317 in order to cancel locking according to the locking mechanism. Accordingly, the covering body 34 becomes an opened state. (See FIG. 12.) At this time, the covering body 34 and the covering body 24 are in a state that their relative positions are changed or dislocated, however, because the shaft 19 is inserted in the long hole 40, when the operator lifts the covering body 34, the covering body 24 is lifted approximately at the same time linked with lifting of the covering body 34. (Even he/she lifts the covering

body 24, the covering body 34 is lifted linked with the covering body 24.) Incidentally, linked with the opening operation for the covering body 34, pushing to the tube 8, 9 due to the tube-pushing member 10 is also canceled.

Please replace paragraph [0098] with the following amended paragraph:

[0098] Incidentally, in this embodiment, the stainless steel for the base portions of the pawl members 29, 39, the hook portions A 301, 311 and the hook portions C 303, ~~[[301]]~~ 313 and the POM for hook portions B 302, 312 and the rollers B 307, 317 were exemplified. However, the present invention is not limited to the same. A metal-made member having high rigidity such as aluminum alloy and the like may be used for the hook portion A 301 and the like, and other resin members having small rigidity may be used for the hook portion B 302 and the like.

Please replace line 7 of page 42 with the following amended line:

304, 314 protruded portion (~~pretruded-portion~~)